

Tribal Law Journal University of New Mexico School of Law Tribal Court Handbook

TLJ, Spring 2008 (Indian Law Section of the State Bar of NM 1991)

TAOS PUEBLO TRIBAL COURT

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NAME OF TRIBE: TAOS PUEBLO

Part One: TRIBAL GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The purpose of this Section is to provide certain basic information about your Tribal Court and judicial system. Anyone practicing in Tribal Court will need to know where the Court is located, how it is organized, and who to contact for more information.

1. Contact Persons and Location of Tribal Court:

Name of Tribal Court	Taos Pueblo Tribal Court				
Contact Person Name	Leona Romero, Court Administrator				
& Title					
Address	PO Box 1846, Taos, NM 87571				
Phone	(505) 751-0488	Fax	(505) 751-3552		
E-mail	tptribalcourts@taospueblo.com				

2. Name and address of the Chief Judge of the Tribal Court:

Name					
Title	Judge Pro Tempore				
Address	PO Box 1846, Taos, NM 8	PO Box 1846, Taos, NM 87571			
Phone	(505) 751-0488	Fax	(505) 751-3552		
E-mail	none				

3. Driving directions to Tribal Court (attach a map if needed):

Court is located at 1057 Veterans Highway, located on the right hand side of the road, behind the CMS Administration Building

4	What is the officia	l name of	VAUR fri	ha ar tadai	rally recognized	Arganizat	ion'	1
4	what is the officia	n name or	your un	be or rede	rany recognized	organizat	1011	

Taos Pueblo		

☐ An IRA or OIWA constitution ☐ A non-IRA constitution ☐ A non-constitutional organizational document (e.g. tribal legislation) ☐ A traditional system (please describe) ☐ Other (please describe)			Theocratic. Taos Pueblo has a traditional system which consists of a Governor, Lt. Governor, Tribal Secretary as well a WarChief, Lt. Warchief and Warchief Secretary, both entities work hand in hand with each other to coordinate and run an efficient for of government.				
Please indicate which	h organic docu	men	ts ar	e p	osses	sed by the Tribe, an	d from whom copies
Tribal Docu			Avail	abl	e?	Obtain	Copy From:
Tribal Constituti	on	<u> </u>	yes	X	no		
2. Bill of Rights		 	yes	X		7 111 1 7	
3. Executive Order		 	yes	X	no	Established Reserv	
4. Land Grant		 -	yes	\boxtimes	no	Established Reserv	ation
5.			yes		no		
	he nature of the aining from forr	se po merly	arcels v larg	:: e.	g. ga		nased land not used for
Please describe dis	putes regarding	the t	tribe'	s te	rritor	nity); there are no resial jurisdiction, inclusionity status; state or	
Please describe dis non-Indian owned	putes regarding fee land; depen	the t	tribe'	s te	rritor	ial jurisdiction, inclu	ding boundaries;
Please describe dis non-Indian owned other:	putes regarding fee land; dependent	the	tribe' India	s te	rritor	ial jurisdiction, inclu	ding boundaries;
Please describe dis non-Indian owned other: Regular Court Staff	putes regarding fee land; depen	the	tribe' India	s te	rritor	ial jurisdiction, inclu nunity status; state or	ding boundaries; county roads; or any
Please describe dis non-Indian owned other: Regular Court Staff	putes regarding fee land; dependent	the	tribe' India	s te	rritor	ial jurisdiction, incluunity status; state or Phone Number	ding boundaries; county roads; or any
Please describe dis non-Indian owned other: Regular Court Staff	putes regarding fee land; dependent	the	tribe' India	s te	rritor	ial jurisdiction, incluunity status; state or Phone Number	ding boundaries; county roads; or any

Other branches				
	s of the Court (if any): No	one		
Other Courts in	n Tribal Court system are	e checked below:		
Suprem	ate Court (Tribal Council			
	courts with different sub			
Other:				
Other:				
10. Number of juice information fo	udges on the Tribal Cou or each judge)	art: (Please provide list	t of names, titles, and	l contact
	ge Positions	# of Full-time Positions	# of Part-time Positions	# of Pro-tem Positions
Frial Court Judge			1	1
Specialized Court				
Appellate Court J Other:	ludges			
11. Tribal Prosec	cutor for the Court :			
	cutor for the Court :			
Name	cutor for the Court :			
Name Title	cutor for the Court :			
Name Title Address	cutor for the Court :	Fax		
Name Title Address Phone	cutor for the Court :	Fax		
Name Title Address Phone	cutor for the Court :	Fax		
Name Fitle Address Phone E-mail				
Name Title Address Phone E-mail 2. Tribal Gover	cutor for the Court :		information regardi	ing Tribal
Name Title Address Phone E-mail			information regardi	ing Tribal
Name Title Address Phone E-mail 2. Tribal Gover Government:	rnment staff person to b	oe contacted for more	_	
Name Title Address Phone E-mail 2. Tribal Gover Government: OTE: The Gover		oe contacted for more	_	
Name Fitle Address Phone E-mail 2. Tribal Gover Government: OTE: The Gover	rnment staff person to b	oe contacted for more	_	
Name Title Address Phone E-mail 2. Tribal Gover Government: OTE: The Governch year.	rnment staff person to be	oe contacted for more	_	
Name Title Address Phone E-mail 2. Tribal Gover Government:	rnment staff person to be rnor serves a one year term. James Lujan, Sr.	oe contacted for more	_	
Name Title Address Phone E-mail 2. Tribal Gover Government: OTE: The Gover ch year. Name Title	rnment staff person to be mor serves a one year term. James Lujan, Sr. Governor	ne contacted for more m (fiscal year), so there	_	

13. ′	Tribal Justice	System Staff:	(Please p	rovide lis	t of names	, titles, a	and contact i	information _.	for e	each
p	osition)									

Tribal Justice System Position	# of Full-time	# of Part-time	# of Pro-tem
	Positions	Positions	Positions
Court Administrators/Clerks	2		
Probation Officers			
Prosecutors			
Public Defenders			
Bailiffs			
Juvenile Officers			
Other: DV Advocate	1		
Other: TYP Coordinator			

14. Use of Attorneys: (Please indicate the number of full and part time attorneys or law school graduates your tribal justice system currently utilizes – enter 0 for positions which are not held by attorneys or law school graduates)

Tribal Justice System Position	# of Full-time Positions	# of Part-time Positions	# of Pro-tem Positions
Judges who are licensed attorneys			
Judges who are law school graduates, but not			
licensed in any state			
Prosecutors who are licensed attorneys		1	
Prosecutors who are law school graduates, but not			
licensed in any state			
Public defenders who are licensed attorneys			
Public defenders who are law school graduates but			
not licensed in any state			

15.	Alternative	e Dispute	e Resolu	ıtion and	Divers	sion]	Programs:
-----	-------------	-----------	----------	-----------	--------	--------	-----------

Does your tribe use Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in the judicial system? X Yes No If yes, please indicate below which ADR methods you use:						
ods						
ritten material available which describes your tribe's ADR program(s)? yes, who should be contacted to obtain a copy:						
Fax						

<u>Part Two: TRIBAL BAR PRACTICE</u> (Please attach additional information for each question if available)

	Issue		Comments
1.	Are there special requirements to be	yes no	Licensed attorney in good standing with the
	permitted to practice in tribal court?		State Bar
2.	Are there requirements regarding	yes no	
	knowledge of tribal culture or		
	language:		
3.	Are advocates who do not have law	yes no	
	degrees or are not members of a state		
	bar permitted to practice in tribal		
	court? Please describe requirements.		
4.	Do the same requirements apply for	⊠ yes □ no	\$100 fee per year.
	state-licensed attorneys?		
5.	Does your tribe have a tribal bar	yes 🛛 no	
	examination? If yes, please provide		
	details concerning requirements, how		
	often the exam is administered and		
	how to get more information about		
	being admitted to the tribal bar.		
6.	Can an otherwise licensed attorney	yes no	Upon application and acceptance by Judge
	who is not a member of the tribal bar		and payment of fee.
	be admitted for a single case? If yes,		
	how?		
7.	Can/must an otherwise licensed	☐ yes ☐ no	N/A
	attorney who is not a member of the		
	tribal bar associate with a member of		
	the tribal bar on a single case? If yes,		
	how?		
8.	Does the tribal bar have a Continuing	☐ yes ☐ no	N/A
	Legal Education requirement? If		
	yes, please provide details.		
9.	What is the total number of members		N/A
	of the tribal bar?		
10.	Of the total number of members of		N/A
	the tribal bar, how many are licensed		
	attorneys admitted to practice in a		
	state?		

16. Other requirements for a lawyer to practice in Tribal Court:

17. Others that are allowed in practice in Tribal Court:

Part Three: TRIBAL COURT RULES AND PROCEDURE

The purpose	of this Sect	tion is to p	rovide spe	ecific inform	mation reg	garding th	ie rules an	d procedure	es
necessary to	practice in	Tribal Co	urt.						

18. Tribal Court's work	ting hours: Monday through Friday from	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
19. Language(s) used in	Tribal Court: English	
20. Interpreters are ava	ilable: □ yes ⊠ no	
Name		
Title		
Address		
Phone	Fax	
E-mail		
Arraignments: Civil: Show Cause: Judicial Reviews Children and Juve	lling or docket practices where specific Monday and Tuesday Tuesday and Wednesday Tuesday Tuesday nile: Tuesday and Wednesday etiquette, or rules of ethics, either writ	
to practice in Tribal Professional Rules	Court:	
Civil Procedure Criminal Procedure Domestic Relations	☐ Evidence ☐ Appellate Procedure ☐ Alternative Dispute Resolution	☑ Others: Tribal Code available for \$100 fee.

25. These rules can be obtained by contacting:

Contact Person Name	Leona Romero, Court Administrator			
& Title				
Address	PO Box 1846, Taos, NM 87571			
Phone	(505) 751-0488	Fax	(505) 751-3552	
E-mail	none			

26. To obtain more	e information on unwrit	ten Tribal	Court rules	procedures, contact:	
Not permitte	ed.				
	orms can be obtained fr court and related forms a		⊠ yes □ n	o If yes, please provid	le a copy.
Contact Person Na. & Title	me Leona Romero, Co	ourt Adminis	strator		
Address	PO Box 1846, Tao	s, NM 8757	1		
Phone	(505) 751-0488	Fa	ix (505	5) 751-3552	-
E-mail	none	1	<u> </u>		
28. Jury trials are Criminal	available for the follow	_			
Other:				Other:	
29. Appeals are av	ailable for the following			Other:	
Other: Trib	al members only in Gove	ernor's Cou	<u>:t</u>	Other:	
	lecisions and opinions and opinions and opinion				
Name	Judge of Record				
Title	Taos Tribal Court				
Address	PO Box 1846				
	Taos, NM 87571				
Phone	(505) 751-0488	Fa	(505	5) 751-3552	
_	ngs or hearings are In anscribed, proceedings or Indge of Record Taos Tribal Court				
Address	PO Box 1846				
	Taos, NM 87571				
Phone	(505) 751-0488	Fa	ıx (505	5) 751-3552	

Part Four: THE JURISDICTION OF TRIBAL COURT

The purpose of this Section is to provide information regarding the law that applies to cases heard in Tribal Court.

32. Information regarding a written Tribal Code can be obtained from:

Copy of the Tribal Code can be obtained for a fee of \$100.

Contact Person Name	Leona Romero, Court Administrator			
& Title				
Address	PO Box 1846, Taos, NM 8			
Phone	(505) 751-0488	Fax	(505) 751-3552	
E-mail	none			

33. Does the tribe or the court have a definition of "non-member Indian" for jurisdictional or service purposes?
yes no If yes, please indicate what that definition is, and describe whether there are different definitions for different purposes (e.g., tribal services or criminal jurisdiction).
34. Does the tribe exercise jurisdiction over members off-reservation?
yes ☐ no If yes, please specify subject matter and circumstances (check all that apply): ☐ Indian Child Welfare Act
☐ Hunting, Fishing or Subsistence
Other: Child in need of care
Other: <u>Domestic Relations issues and Real Property issues</u>
 yes ⋈ no Comments: 36. Do a significant number of non-Indians visit tribal lands on a regular basis? ⋈ yes ⋈ no If yes, please indicate the types of visits (check all that apply):
☐ Gaming ☐ Tourism ☐ Travelers on Interstate Highway ☐ Resort ☐ Hunting/Fishing ☐ Transients on Other Highways ☐ Smokeshop ☐ Other:
37. Are there problems presented by these visitors, such as increased traffic violations, hunting or wood cutting violations? ☑ yes ☐ no If yes, please describe these problems and indicate whether disputes are presently settled in tribal court or other forum (please specify forum, such as state court):
Traffic Violations (Tribal Court)

non-members or non-Inc	lians (as opposed to li	at <u>specifically</u> limit <u>your</u> tribe's mitations on all tribes)? ecific law or provision and the lir	
Federal Statute:	Non-Indians	Non-member Indians	over
Treaty Provision:	Non-Indians	Non-member Indians	over
39. Over which groups of popurisdiction?	ersons does your trib	al constitution or traditional sy	stem permit
Tribal Constitu	<u>ıtion</u>	Traditional System	
☐ Tribal Mem ☐ All persons, ☐ All persons, ☐ All Indians, ☐ All Indians,	civil criminal civil	☐ Tribal Members Of ☐ All persons, civil ☐ All persons, crimins ☐ All Indians, civil ☐ All Indians, crimins	al
•	he jurisdiction Genecify the subject matte	eral over all actions, or \square as to s	specific matters
		regarding any Tribal Codes that	apply to practice in
41. Does your tribe's Constitution If yes, are copies available		contain a Bill of Rights?	☐ yes ⊠ no
42. Does your tribe have a w	ritten code?	yes no	
🔀 a modern (ed on: stomary law (Western-style) code omary law and modern	(Western-style) code	
43. Is a copy of the tribal coo	=	any person who wants it?	⊠ yes □ no
		Phone: (505) 751-0 mough funds to produce more cop	

If yes, when was the last time the tribal codi	
if yes, when was the last time the tribul cour	ned. Butc.
45. Please indicate which of the following are cov	ered in your tribal code (check all that apply):
FAMILY LAW (Domestic Relations)	HOUSING AND LAND USE
Marriage	⊠ Evictions
☐ Divorce	☐ Housing authority actions
☐ Child Support and Enforcement	⊠ Trespass
☑ Visitation☐ Paternity	☐ Land assignments ☐ Land use
☐ Faterinty ☐ Guardianship	☐ Land use ☐ Landlord-tenant
	☐ Grazing/Farming
☐ Out of home placement	Grazing/raming
☐ Children in Need of Supervision (CHINS)	☐ Other:
☐ Adoption (including ICWA)	
☐ Probate (Estate distributions)	☐ Other:
□ Domestic Violence	
	TRIBAL AFFAIRS
	☐ Enrollment
☐ Other:	☐ TERO and other employment rights
	☐ Elections
☐ Other:	☐ Voter Registration
HINDRING E HIGGEROE	☐ Eligibility to run for office
JUVENILE JUSTICE	Recounts
	☐ Campaign Financing ☐ Other election disputes
Non-status offenses (criminal)	☐ Appeals
2 Tron status offenses (erminar)	Пррешь
ENVIRONMENTAL	CRIMINAL LAW
☐ Housing	□ Assault and battery
☐ Building ☐ Sanitation	☐ Harassment and stalking
☐ Solid Waste	☑ Kidnapping☑ Trespass
☐ Water	☐ Property damage
Air	☐ Larceny
□ Noise	☐ Extortion
☐ Other:	☐ Receiving stolen property
	☐ Illegal kickbacks
☐ Other:	☐ Marital and familial offenses (e.g. bigamy, unlawful
	cohabitation, incest)
CIVIL COMMITMENTS	⊠ Sexual offenses (other than children as victims)
Mental Health □	✓ Alcohol and other intoxicants (including selling,
⊠ Substance Abuse	possession, bootlegging, trafficking, distributing, etc.)
☐ Diversity of the bility	Homicide (murder & lesser offenses involving the
☐ Physical disability	death of a human being)
☑ Developmentally disabled (severely retarded) or	☐ Crimes against children & dependents, including sex
other disorder (stroke, persistent vegetative state) disability	crimes
uisaunity	☐ Bribery ☐ Perjury and false affirmations
☐ Other:	☐ Malicious prosecution
	- Manerous prosecution

□ Other:	□ Conspiracy to commit a crime □ Worthless checks □ Welfare fraud □ Racketeering □ Election fraud or interfering with elections □ Computer crimes (e.g. computer access with intent to defraud or embezzle, unauthorized computer use) ☑ Controlled substances (e.g. drug selling, possession, distribution, trafficking, etc.) ☑ Crimes against public peace (e.g. disorderly conduct, unlawful assembly, rioting) ☑ Interference with law enforcement (e.g. resisting, evading, obstruction, assault, battery, refusing to aid, concealing identity, aiding a felon, escape from jail, assisting escape, bringing contraband into jail) □ Official misconduct (e.g. demanding or receiving illegal fees, making false vouchers, paying or receiving tribal money for services not provided) □ Other: □ □ Other: □ □ Other: □ □ Other: □
COURT PROCEDURES ☐ Criminal Court procedures (e.g. requirements for filing a complaint, time limits for hearings and motions, format for documents) ☐ Civil Court procedures (e.g. requirements for filing a petition or complaint, time limits for hearings and motions, format for documents) ☐ Juvenile or Children's Court procedures (e.g. requirements for filing a petition, time limits for hearings and motions, format for documents) ☐ Appellate Court procedures (e.g. requirements for allowing appeals, time limits, notice of appeal) ☐ Administrative Court procedures (e.g. from decisions made by tribal departments such as housing, personnel, land use & realty, environmental, membership, or elections board) ☐ Procedures for appeals from council (legislative) decisions. ☐ Code of Judicial or Professional Responsibility ☐ Other:	OTHER CODE PROVISIONS (Please specify): See attached forms.

General Waiver Limited Waiver For tort o For civil For spec As to spe	ts immunity from suit in court hich of the following applies: (check all that apply) claims against the tribe rights claims against the tribe ific business activities ecial tribal public agencies (e.g. leally-owned business enterprises) State Gaming Compact	nousing authority)	∟ no
Specific to: Tribal Co Federal Co State Co	ourt Court		
Is the civil jurisdiction of If yes, please indicate the	of your tribe limited by any fedestatute:	leral statute?	☐ yes ⊠ no
-4 Ci INTEDCO	TEDNIMENTAL DELAT	CIONIC	
Does your tribe, pueblo		ts to <u>RECEIVE</u> s	services <u>from</u> or to use s
Does your tribe, pueblo facilities of a state, coun If no, go to question #48. If yes, please complete the	, or village have any agreementy, municipality, or other tribe	ts to <u>RECEIVE</u> s	s 🗌 no
Does your tribe, pueblo facilities of a state, coun If no, go to question #48.	, or village have any agreement, municipality, or other triberate following chart: Type of Agreement Contracts Other formal agreements	ts to <u>RECEIVE</u> s	
Does your tribe, pueblo facilities of a state, coun If no, go to question #48. If yes, please complete the	or village have any agreement, municipality, or other triberate following chart: Type of Agreement Contracts	ts to RECEIVE s	s 🗌 no
Does your tribe, pueblo facilities of a state, coun If no, go to question #48. If yes, please complete the Type of Service Cross Deputization	refollowing chart: Type of Agreement Contracts Other formal agreements Informal agreements Other formal agreements Contracts Other formal agreements Other formal agreements	ts to RECEIVE s	eement is With:
Does your tribe, pueblo facilities of a state, count of the facilities of the facilities of the facilities of a state, count of the facilities of the facilities of a state, count of the facilities of the facili	refollowing chart: Type of Agreement Contracts Other formal agreements Informal agreements Contracts Other formal agreements Informal agreements Contracts	ts to RECEIVE s	eement is With:
Does your tribe, pueblo facilities of a state, count of the facilities of the facili	refollowing chart: Type of Agreement Contracts Other formal agreements Informal agreements Informal agreements Contracts Other formal agreements Informal agreements Informal agreements Informal agreements Contracts Other formal agreements Informal agreements Contracts Other formal agreements Informal agreements Contracts Other formal agreements Informal agreements Other formal agreements Other formal agreements	ts to RECEIVE s	eement is With:

If yes, please complete the following chart:

	Type of Service		Type of Agreement	Agreement is With:
	Cross Deputization	_	ontracts	
			ther formal agreements	
			nformal agreements	
	Shelter Care		ontracts	
			ther formal agreements	
			nformal agreements	
	Treatment/Counseling		ontracts	
		ᄖ	ther formal agreements	
-	B		nformal agreements	
	Detention Facilities		ontracts	
			other formal agreements	
-	Correction Facilities		nformal agreements	
	Correction Facilities			
			other formal agreements	
-	Other (Please Describe)		ontracts	
	Other (Fleuse Describe)		ther formal agreements	
			nformal agreements	
		🗀 11	normal agreements	
	treaty, federal legislation	, or tr		er any portion of your reservation by yes no d describe briefly):
	(Please specify and describ	pe)		
	Federal Legislation (P.L. 83-280 or other – ple specify and describe)	ease		
	Tribal Legislation (Please specify and describ	pe)		
	Is state jurisdiction limite If yes, jurisdiction is limite		☐ yes ⊠ no	
	Persons: (Please specify and describ	pe)		
	Subject Matter: (Please specify and describ	oe)		

If yes, concurrent jurisdiction is Persons:	
(Please specify and describe)	
Subject Matter:	
(Please specify and describe)	
Does your tribe receive service and court systems under state. If yes, the services provided are	—, —
and court systems under state	e jurisdiction?